from Societies/Associations of unauthorized colonies existing as on 31.3.2002, seeking regularization and received 1432 applications. Further, 107 applications have been received by GNCTD in response to a later advertisement inviting applications. GNCTD has informed that verification on site of these applications has been taken up through different agencies. Unauthorized colonies fulfilling the prescribed conditions will be considered for regularization.

Talent Search and Training Scheme

†2718. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the Commonwealth Games, his Ministry is implementing Talent Search and Training scheme in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the said scheme is also being implemented in Uttarakhand;

(c) whether in order to provide advance training to talented youth, it is proposed to provide additional economic assistance to States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount being provided to Uttarakhand on this account?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Under the Scheme relating to Talent Search & Training, financial assistance of upto Rs. 5.00 lakh is provided to medal winners in the Olympics/Commonwealth/Asian/SAF/Afro-Asian Games and National Champions for training and participation in tournaments in India and abroad, and purchase of equipment and scientific support. Supporting personnel such as coaches, sports scientists, doctors, masseurs etc. are also assisted under the scheme for undergoing specialized training in particular sports disciplines and for attending seminars/conferences and for appearing in qualifying examinations. There is no provision in the scheme for routing assistance through the States. Any sportsperson or supporting personnel fulfilling the eligibility criteria is free to avail of the scheme irrespective of the State to which he or she belongs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.